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Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

Report of the Sixth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Metod **Špaček** (Slovakia)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country" was included in the provisional agenda of the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly pursuant to Assembly resolution 57/22 of 19 November 2002.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 19 September 2003, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the Sixth Committee.

3. The Sixth Committee considered the item at its 22nd meeting, on 5 November 2003. The views of the representatives who spoke during the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary record (A/C.6/58/SR.22).

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country;[1]

(b) Letter dated 19 May 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country, requesting the official circulation of the declaration of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Cuba, dated 13 May 2003 (A/AC.154/360);

(c) Letter dated 3 October 2003 from the representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country, requesting circulation of a document on the

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 26* (A/58/26).

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operations of the Parking Programme for Diplomatic Vehicles as a document of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country (A/AC.154/361).

5. At the 22nd meeting, on 5 November, the Chairman of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country introduced the report of that Committee (see A/C.6/58/SR.22).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.6/58/L.23

6. At the 22nd meeting, on 5 November, the representative of Cyprus, on behalf of Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire and Cyprus, subsequently joined by Spain, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country" (A/C.6/58/L.23).

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.6/58/L.23 without a vote (see para. 8).

III. Recommendation of the Sixth Committee

8. The Sixth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country,[1]

Recalling Article 105 of the Charter of the United Nations, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,[2] the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations[3] and the responsibilities of the host country,

Recalling also that, in accordance with paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 2819 (XXVI) of 15 December 1971, the Committee should consider, and advise the host country on, issues arising in connection with the implementation of the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations,

Recalling further its resolution 43/172 of 9 December 1988, in which it stressed the importance of a positive perception of the work of the United Nations, and urged that efforts be continued to build up public awareness by explaining, through all available means, the importance of the role played by the United Nations and the missions accredited to it in the strengthening of international peace and security,

Recognizing that effective measures should continue to be taken by the competent authorities of the host country, in particular to prevent any acts violating the security of missions and the safety of their personnel,

1. *Endorses* the recommendations and conclusions of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country contained in paragraph 52 of its report;[1]

2. *Considers* that the maintenance of appropriate conditions for the normal work of the delegations and the missions accredited to the United Nations and the observance of their privileges and immunities, which is an issue of great importance, are in the interest of the United Nations and all Member States, and requests the host country to continue to solve, through negotiations, problems that might arise and to take all measures necessary to prevent any interference with the functioning of missions;

3. *Welcomes* the decision of the Committee to conduct a detailed review of the implementation of the Parking Programme for Diplomatic Vehicles,[4] as recommended by the Legal Counsel in his opinion on 24 September 2002,[5] with a

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 26* (A/58/26).
[2] Resolution 22 A (I).
[3] See resolution 169 (II).
[4] A/AC.154/355, annex.
[5] A/AC.154/358, annex.

view to addressing the problems experienced by some permanent missions during the first year of the Programme, and ensuring its proper implementation in a manner that is fair, non-discriminatory, effective and consistent with international law;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts made by the host country, and hopes that the issues raised at the meetings of the Committee will continue to be resolved in a spirit of cooperation and in accordance with international law;

5. *Notes* that during the reporting period the travel controls previously imposed by the host country on staff of certain missions and staff members of the Secretariat of certain nationalities remained in effect, and requests the host country to consider removing such travel controls, and in this regard notes the positions of affected States, of the Secretary-General and of the host country;

6. *Notes also* that the Committee anticipates that the host country will continue to ensure the issuance, in a timely manner, of entry visas to representatives of Member States, pursuant to article IV, section 11, of the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations,[3] inter alia, for the purpose of their attending official United Nations meetings;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to remain actively engaged in all aspects of the relations of the United Nations with the host country;

8. *Requests* the Committee to continue its work in conformity with General Assembly resolution 2819 (XXVI);

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the item entitled "Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country".